

**Saginaw Bay Coastal Initiative
MI Great Bay, Inc. Meeting Summary
Wednesday, February 27, 2008**

Present: Lori Amo, Clark Elftman, Mike Evanoff, Chuck Frost, Jim Hergott, Shirley Roberts, John Cummings and Jim Bredin

The group was called to order at 1:05 p.m. and reminded that we agreed to dedicate this meeting to developing the organizational structure and discussing potential funding.

Funding:

The group discussed the possibility of developing and presenting funding proposals to both Saginaw Bay WIN and the DEQ Coastal Management Program. The discussion revolved around the issues identified by Saginaw Bay WIN after earlier proposals were submitted. The group decided that, at this time, we would not develop a proposal for MI Great Bay but rather focus on finalizing the organizational structure. Members of the group did indicate that they may submit proposals that would compliment the efforts of the group.

By-Laws:

The majority of the discussion revolved around draft by-laws. After the last meeting, Jim Hergott received a number of comments on the draft. At the meeting the group agreed to strike Sections 5.3 and 5.5 and made other minor revisions. The group asked Jim Hergott to include a dissolution clause. Jim Hergott agreed to make the revisions and will provide the group with a revised version. The group agreed that at the March meeting we will make final revisions to the by-laws and at the April meeting the county representatives as appointed by the counties (**Clark Elftman-Huron County, Chuck Frost-Tuscola County, Shirley Roberts-Bay County, Jim Koski-Saginaw County, Joseph Sancimino-Arenac County, and Tom Ferguson-Iosco County**) will be asked to approve the document.

Following discussion, it was agreed the Board of Directors should be comprised of no more than two (2) representatives of each of the six (6) participating counties. Representatives will be gleaned from destination marketing organizations, chambers of commerce, economic development corporations or may be appointed by county boards of commissioners. The group also agreed that the final determination of each county's representatives will be made by current county representatives (see current county representative list above).

The group also discussed the pros and cons of incorporating under 501(c)3 or 501(c)6 of the IRS code. The group agreed to pursue a 501(c)3 designation because it would allow greater flexibility for the group to seek outside funding.

Jim Hergott will also be looking into having an attorney review the documents prior to the April meeting.

Other:

- John Cummings presented the progress to date on his study of Saginaw Bay access points in Arenac county.

- Jim Hergott mentioned that the Saginaw Bay RC&D is considering seeking funding to undertake a road ending project for all of Saginaw Bay that would compliment Arenac County's project.
- Chuck Frost may develop a funding proposal for his organization that would compliment our effort.
- The agenda for the next SBCI MI Great Bay meeting (March 26th) should include the following: (1) finalizing MI Great Bay By-Laws, (2) discussion of group funding alternatives such as membership dues and potential grants, 3) getting final approval of the by-laws.

The next meeting of the work group is scheduled for Wednesday, March 26th at 1:00 at the Bay Area Convention and Visitor Bureau at 901 Saginaw Street in Downtown Bay City in the Commerce One Building.

Meeting adjourned at 3:00 p.m.